

Southern California Investigations Program

LOCATION: Includes the counties of Imperial, Inyo, Mono, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura in California.

DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION: The objective of this ongoing program is to help Southern California identify feasible, reliable, local water supplies. Southern California faces a critical situation where water demands exceed the dependable supply and imported supplies are becoming increasingly less reliable. Water supplies come from a number of sources, such as water imported from the Colorado River, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta of northern California, and other areas in California; locally developed surface supplies; groundwater; and reclaimed wastewater. There is an interest in increasing local sources of water, improving water quality, and keeping water costs reasonable. Many of the imported water supplies are experiencing increased competition from environmental uses as well as uses from other areas of California and other states.

Reclamation's priorities include water conservation, drought management, support of environmental restoration and enhancement, wetlands, technology transfer, and safeguarding water supplies. All of these priorities are being encountered in southern California. Reclamation has demonstrated the ability and will continue to be able to assist local entities in solving problems and bringing all concerned parties together.

AUTHORIZATION: The Reclamation Act of 1902, June 17, 1902; Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, July 3, 1918; P.L. 101-233, North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, October 13, 1989; P.L. 102-575-Title XVI, Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, October 30, 1992.

SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA

Program Financial Data

Activity	FY 2001	FY 2002
Water and Energy Management and Development	\$2,520,711	\$1,750,000
Total Program	\$2,520,711	\$1,750,000
Prior Year Funds	(57,711)	0
Non-Federal	(1,339,000)	(875,000)
Enacted	\$1,124,000	\$875,000
Underfinancing	(75,000)	0
FY 2001 Rescission (P.L. 106-554)	(2,000)	0
Total Reclamation Allotment	\$1,047,000	\$875,000

COST-SHARING: City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department and Water Department, San Diego County Water Authority, Tia Juana Valley County Water District, Otay Water District, Sweetwater Authority, California American Water Company, Commission International Limits y Agua, Secretaria de Asentamientos Humanos y Obras Publicas, California Department of Health Services,

California Regional Water Control Board, California Department of Water Resources, city of Imperial Beach, and city of Chula Vista for the Border of the Californias Recycled Water Study; Eastern Municipal Water District, Lake Elsinore Municipal Water District, and other water interests in the area for the Mystic Lake Watershed Management Study; Fallbrook Public Utilities District, Rancho California Water District, Eastern Municipal Water District, and Riverside Flood Control and Water Conservation District for the Santa Margarita River Watershed Study; the Water Replenishment District of Southern California, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, and possibly Orange County Water District for the Shallow Passive Seawater Barrier Study, and the cities of Los Angeles and San Diego, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Central/West Basin Municipal Water Districts, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, South Orange County Reclamation Authority, Orange County Sanitation District, San Diego County Water Authority, and Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency for the Southern California Water Recycling Projects Initiative.

WORK PROPOSED FOR FY 2002:

Water and Energy Management and Development -

Border of the Californias Recycled Water Study - Begins to collect data on water demands in Mexico, investigate the hydrogeology of the San Diego formation on both sides of the border, and investigate source control strategies in the Tijuana River watershed and investigate conjunctive management of the aquifer using recycled water from the South Bay Treatment Plant. The goal is to develop effective water management strategies that will protect the groundwater basin that is shared with Mexico, expand the available water supply on the U.S. side, and increase water supply and wastewater treatment opportunities for Mexico. (FY 2002 - FY 2006)

	\$280,000
Non-Federal - Various	<u>(140,000)</u>
	140,000

Mystic Lake Watershed Management Study - Continues evaluation of water management options. The goal is a watershed management plan addressing the environmental and health effects of utilizing reclaimed water to supply and enhance the wetlands of Mystic Lake while improving the existing surface and groundwater supplies. This study is also related to the water rights settlement with the Soboba Indian Tribe. (FY 2000 - FY 2005)

	20,000
Non-Federal - Various	<u>(10,000)</u>
	10,000

Santa Margarita Watershed Study - Begins to survey current watershed level resource knowledge, collect additional hydrologic and environmental data, identify alternative recharge opportunities within the watershed, identify additional seasonal beneficial uses, identify environmental enhancement opportunities within the watershed, particularly with respect to endangered and threatened species, and identify alternative water management strategies for improving water quality within the watershed. The project is a joint effort to identify and evaluate, opportunities for (non-Federal) construction of groundwater recharge projects within the watershed and seasonal banking projects outside the watershed that would allow the granting of a water right for some or all of the original surface impoundment permits. (FY 2002 - FY 2005)

	350,000
Non-Federal - Various	<u>(175,000)</u>
	175,000

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Shallow Passive Seawater Barrier Study - Begins to select site, survey alignment, locate utilities, and write specifications for installation of an impermeable subsurface deep soil mix barrier to prevent seawater intrusion into the groundwater aquifer. The study will initiate the development of alternative seawater barriers, which is in the Federal interest because the water now injected into the barrier wells could be used to supply municipal and industrial users, thereby reducing imported water demand in the Los Angeles Basin. (FY 2002 - FY 2005) 300,000
Non-Federal - Various (150,000)
150,000

Southern California Water Recycling Projects Initiative - Continues engineering, economic and environmental impacts evaluation of water recycling projects as recommended by the Southern California Comprehensive Water Reclamation and Reuse Study. Continues work on the regional water quality impacts on recycled water projects, financial opportunities evaluation for the projects, and development of a public education strategy for the projects identified in the prior study. (FY 2000 - FY 2004) 800,000
Non-Federal - Various (400,000)
400,000

Subtotal, Water and Energy Management and Development **\$875,000**

Reclamation Request \$875,000